

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, This House of Representatives of the 93rd  
3 Illinois General Assembly has learned with much mixed emotion  
4 that Mark O'Brien has decided to complete his career after 32  
5 years of service to the Speaker of the House; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien began his career in the House of  
7 Representatives on July 6, 1971 and served under and/or  
8 outlasted six Governors, five Speakers, three redistricting  
9 plans, issues directors and chiefs of staff too numerous to  
10 mention; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien's saw an estimated 55,000 bill  
12 folders slide through his delicate fingers while avoiding  
13 starvation and dehydration, juggling a phone, listening to  
14 the Senate, "orienting" co-workers, and "encouraging"  
15 lawmakers; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien was mentored by the legendary  
17 southern Illinois bon vivant and retired Majority Leader  
18 Clyde Choate; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien parlayed those educational and  
20 diplomatic experiences into an innate sense of poise, grace,  
21 and style that defined the word Bill Box Man; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien proved to be something of a  
23 renaissance man by keeping up with technological advances  
24 ranging from the pencil to the laptop computer; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien also garnered the reputation as a  
26 "can do" guy who no matter how many times something had to be  
27 retyped, recopied, or rewritten, he was always there until it  
28 was done; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien cultivated an unparalleled knowledge  
30 of Illinois House Rules and parliamentary procedure that from

1 time to time reportedly led to parliamentarians asking him for  
2 a ruling; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien's achievements are too numerous to  
4 recount, it must be noted for posterity that he is one of the  
5 creators and ultimate umpire of the "Ten Word Game"; and

6 WHEREAS, Mark O'Brien is the loving husband of Paulette  
7 O'Brien, they are the proud parents of sons, Morgan and Kyle;  
8 he has gone through many Ford Pintos, taking his turn on two  
9 wheels before settling on his Harley Davidson; there is not  
10 one joke that he hasn't heard, and he is known for his  
11 variety of hairstyles and neck ties; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
13 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
14 we congratulate Mark O'Brien on his retirement after many  
15 years of dedicated service in the Illinois House of  
16 Representatives and wish him good health and happiness in all  
17 of his future endeavors; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to Mark O'Brien as an expression of our respect and  
20 esteem.